

OVERVIEW

ENGAGING, CRITIQUING, TRANSFORMING			
The Master of Education is designed for qualified classroom teachers to upgrade expertise and credentials with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of their teaching.	Program Director	Dr Fiona Partridge	
	AQF Level	AQF Level 9 (Postgraduate)	
	Qualification	Master Degree (Coursework)	
	Subjects	8	
	IELTS	7.0	
	Languages of Instruction	English	
	CRICOS Code	097940J	
	ASCED Code	070103	
	Accreditation	Self-accreditation	
	Course Length	2 years full-time; or up to 7 years part-time	

Christian educators are called to participate in God's work of the redemption and renewal of all things through Christ. The Master of Education course involves engaging, critiquing, and re-forming scholarly educational discourse and practice in light of biblical perspectives. Students will be equipped to re-imagine and develop flourishing and hope-filled learning communities, equipped to contribute to the task of transformative education.

The Master of Education is a one-year (full time) eight-subject (80-credit points) graduate entry level course for qualified classroom teachers. The Master of Education is aimed largely at classroom practitioners. Christian educators who desire to deepen their understanding of educational practice through study in this course will develop their craft of Christian education through deeply engaging with reflective practice, critical thinking, and communication of ideas. This course provides an advanced grounding in educational theory and practice as understood from a biblical perspective. As such, the course encourages investigation into, and reflection on, current theory and practice, and where necessary, thoughtful deconstruction, and reconstruction towards application in effective practice within specific, local contexts.



Through a Higher Education Third Party Arrangement (HETPA), the National Institute for Christian Education (NICE) delivers this course of study on AC's behalf. NICE is a postgraduate training institute that has been developing Christian educators since

1979. For more information about NICE, including the suite of courses they deliver, their teaching faculty,



requirements for admission into this course of study, and information about fees and student services, please visit NICE's website (https://nice.edu.au/).

Included also in the course is a substantial body of knowledge appropriate to current education practice. Utilising the expertise of highly qualified and experienced lecturing staff, and with access to current books and ejournals, the course core and elective subjects provide a biblical grounding pertinent to practically oriented, current theoretical foundations that apply to a range of education contexts. The course therefore aims to produce graduates who are competent and reflective professional educators, equipped to engage in life-long learning in their profession. The Master of Education course offers three capstone completion pathways, allowing students to engage in an extended research project if interested and eligible.

AC & NICE GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Christian Worldview

AC: A knowledge of the Christian story, derived from the Scriptures and tradition of the church. An awareness of the implications of this story for self-identity in the context of local and global communities. This includes a commitment to engage with alternate worldviews, showing appreciation of the values and perspectives of others.

NICE: Articulate a clear understanding of God's story, a biblical worldview, and its impact on philosophical and historical trends in education. Plan and implement educational programs in the social and cultural context of the contemporary world that are critically shaped by a biblically informed experience of that world.

Leadership

AC: The ability to provide effective Christian leadership to individuals, groups and organisations, demonstrated in the capacity to influence and enable others to accomplish worthwhile objectives, which contribute to the human good and the kingdom of God. This includes seeking to emulate the example of Jesus Christ in serving and empowering others.

NICE: Demonstrate the advanced level of knowledge and high order of skills that are required for effective Christian educational leadership and training in such areas as teaching, curriculum, administration and research in order to fulfil the vision and mission of particular school communities.

Integrity and Justice

AC: The ability to apply a Christian worldview in the diverse situations and responsibilities of life, and to exercise faith, hope, love and generosity as prevailing attitudes. This includes the active promotion of the gospel, social justice, equality, mutual respect and an ecological ethos.

NICE: Recognise the diversity of worldviews and life values that characterise today's pluralist societies, encourage respect, based on informed understanding, of those who hold views that differ from those of the school community of the student.



Communications

AC: The ability to communicate effectively to a range of audiences, in appropriate contexts using high levels of verbal, written and technological skills. This includes visual and media literacy, numeracy, rhetoric and persuasion.

NICE: Critically evaluate and effectively communicate educational theories and practices in order to most effectively achieve desired learning outcomes with special attention to embedded worldview and life values.

Personal and Social Skills

AC: Demonstrate relational skills that incorporate the flexibility for both independent and collaborative situations. This includes personal and group organizational skills, conflict management and resolution, as well as the ability to value and respect the opinions of others.

NICE: Develop a plan for continual personal development that includes spiritual, professional and interpersonal skills for effective classroom teaching and collegial academic engagement.

Critical and Creative Thinking

AC: A capacity for critical and reflective thinking that is explored not only individually but within a community context. This includes a capacity to be creative and to research, analyse and resolve problems in innovative and prophetic ways.

NICE: Demonstrate creativity and flexibility supported by biblically informed, rigorous reasoning in identifying and dealing with emerging problems in the educational context.

Professional Knowledge

AC: Maintenance and use of knowledge about a discipline or field, involving theoretical, conceptual and methodological elements. This includes striving continually and independently to secure further knowledge and where appropriate, defined professional skills.

NICE: Develop and implement classroom research projects that will provide a sound basis for the development of effective educational practice based upon the philosophical assumptions of the school context and needs of students.



COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Specification	Level 9: Masters Degree	AC/NICE Course Learning	AC/NICE Graduate
		outcomes	Attributes
Knowledge	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have: • a body of knowledge that includes the understanding of recent developments in a discipline and/or area of professional practice; • knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to a field of work and or learning.	 Demonstrated: advanced and integrated recognition of the diversity of life values that characterise today's pluralist societies, including as appropriate, consideration and application of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, and ability to encourage respect, based on informed understanding, of those who hold views that differ from those of the school community; detailed understanding of the development of theological and anthropological perspectives on Christian educational practice; in-depth understanding of general research principles and methods, and advanced knowledge of specific research approaches within the discipline of education. 	Christian Worldview Critical and Creative Thinking Professional Knowledge
Skills	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have: cognitive skills to demonstrate mastery of theoretical knowledge and to reflect critically on theory and professional practice or scholarship; cognitive, technical and creative skills to investigate, analyse and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and to apply established theories to different bodies of knowledge or practice; cognitive, technical and creative skills to generate	 Demonstrated ability to: critically evaluate and effectively communicate educational theories and practices in order to most effectively achieve desired learning outcomes with special attention to embedded worldview and life values; demonstrate the advanced level of knowledge and higher order of skills that are required for effective Christian education and professional learning in such areas as teaching, curriculum, administration, and research in order to fulfil the vision and mission of particular school communities; 	Christian Worldview Leadership Integrity and Justice Communication Personal and Social Skills Critical and Creative Thinking Professional Knowledge



MASTER OF EDUCATION

and evaluate complex
ideas and concepts at ar
abstract level;

- communication and technical research skills to justify and interpret theoretical propositions, methodologies, conclusions and professional decisions to specialist and nonspecialist audiences;
- technical and communication skills to design, evaluate, implement, analyse and theorise about developments that contribute to professional practice or scholarship.
- advanced ability to a develop and implement a learning environment research project that will provide a sound basis for the development of effective educational practise based upon the philosophical assumptions of the school context and needs of students;
- articulate a clear understanding of a biblical worldview, and its impact on philosophical and historical trends in education.
- plan and implement educational programs in the social and cultural context of the contemporary world that are critically shaped by a biblically informed experience of that world;
- design and implement a capstone project which examines a complex problem or issue using appropriate methodologies and theories from the discipline area.

Demonstrated ability to: display creativity and flexibility

supported by biblically informed, rigorous reasoning in identifying and dealing with emerging problems in the educational context;

- develop a plan for continual personal development that includes spiritual, professional and interpersonal skills for effective educational practice and collegial academic engagement;
- design and implement a major research project to advance personal and professional learning, in order to thrive in educational contexts.

Christian Worldview

Leadership

Integrity and Justice

Communication

Personal and Social Skills

Critical and Creative **Thinking**

Professional Knowledge

Application of knowledge and skills

Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:

- with creativity and initiative to new situations in professional practice and/or for further learning;
- with high level personal autonomy and accountability;
- to plan and execute a substantial researchbased project, capstone experience and/or piece of scholarship.



COURSE STRUCTURE (CURRENT)

This course structure applies to students enrolled from Semester 1, 2024 onwards.

The course structure is based on a full-time study load over two semesters (each of 13 weeks duration), with four subjects taught in each semester (summer intake and part-time mode also available). It comprises:

- 40 cp Core subjects
- 30 cp Electives
- 10 cp Capstone subject (or 20 cp Capstone subject and 20 cp Electives)

To qualify for award of the degree of Master of Education a candidate shall accrue an aggregate of at least 80 credit points, including satisfactory completion of the core subjects noted below.

The degree is a Master of Education via course work with research components.

CONTENT OF THE COUR	SE OF STUDY	CREDIT POINTS
CORE SUBJECTS	EDU400/a Biblical Foundations of Education EDU501/a Worldviews and Educational Practice EDU507 Reflective Pedagogy EDU503 Curriculum Development in Christian Schools Note: the "a" versions are the core subjects that are offered via the NICE@School supported delivery mode.	4 x 10
ELECTIVE SUBJECTS	EDU517 Assessment for Deeper Learning EDU525 Learning Theories and Formational Practice EDU527 Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Education EDU546 Equity and Inclusion: Educating Students with Disability EDU551 Perspectives on Teaching Mathematics EDU555 Digital Technology and Education EDU579 Critical Evaluation of Professional Learning EDU595 Research Methods in Education* EDU565 Mentoring, Coaching, and Supervising in Educational Contexts In addition to 20 cp from the electives listed above, students may	3 x 10 (unless undertaking EDU598 for 20cp)
CAPSTONE (COMPULSORY) A capstone subject is to be completed as a final subject.	choose up to 1 elective (10 cp) from the Master of Education (Leadership) course. CAPSTONE SUBJECT OPTIONS – students must complete one of the follow capstone subjects in order to fulfil the course requirements: EDU596 Reflective Project Capstone (10cp) EDU581 Research Design Capstone (10 cp) EDU598 Education Research Project Capstone (20 cp, taken over two	1 x 10 (or 1 x 20)
,	The capstone subject offerings enable students to meet the AQF9 standard application of knowledge and skills: "to plan and execute a substantial research-based project, capstone experience and or piece of scholarship".	



SPECIALISATION	There are no specialisations
RULES OF PROGRESSION	4 core subjects, 3 electives and 1 x 10 cp capstone subject. Or 4 core subjects, 2 electives and 1 x 20 cp capstone subject (with compulsory EDU595 Research Methods subject for EDU581).
OTHER PROTOCOLS OF THE COURSE	10 credit points per subject with 1 point being 10 hours of study per week. Total hours per subject is 130 hours.
PRE-REQUISITES FOR SPECIFIC SUBJECTS	*EDU595 Research Methods in Education is a compulsory requisite to EDU598 Education Research Project Capstone (20 credits) and is highly recommended as for completion prior to EDU581 Research Design Capstone. EDU595 must be completed at no lower than a Credit grade in order to be eligible for transition into EDU598. Pre-requisites are noted on each subject outline. Students must have completed the pre-requisite to enrol in the subject.
Nested Course	The Graduate Certificate in Education is a nested award in the Master of Education designed to equip education professionals with an understanding of a biblical perspective on the philosophical foundations of education. It can be a destination course or exit point, thus allowing flexibility for students who may wish to start with a short postgraduate course before committing to a Master of Education or for students who need to exit the Master of Education earlier than intended, due to unforeseen personal or professional circumstances.
PROPOSED COURSE PROGRESSION	Please refer to Appendix 1.

For information on the teaching faculty for this course, please visit the NICE website.

COURSE STRUCTURE (PREVIOUS)

This course structure applies to students enrolled prior to Semester 1, 2024.

Structure of the course of study: The course structure is based on two semesters (each of 13 weeks duration), with four subjects taught in each semester. It comprises:

- 40 credit points of compulsory core subjects
- 30 credit points of electives
- 10 credit point capstone subject (or 20 cp Capstone subject and 20 cp Electives)

To qualify for award of the degree of Master of Education a candidate shall accrue an aggregate of at least 80 credit points, including satisfactory completion of the core subjects noted below.

CONTENT OF THE COURSE OF STUDY		CREDIT POINTS
CORE SUBJECTS	EDU400 Biblical Foundations of Education EDU501 Worldviews and Educational Practice EDU507 Reflective Pedagogy EDU503 Curriculum Development in Christian Schools	4 x 10



ELECTIVE SUBJECTS	EDU516 Formative Classroom Assessment	
	EDU524 Learning Theories in Practice	
	EDU526 Comparative and International Education	2 10
	EDU546 Equity and Inclusion: Educating Students with Disability	3 x 10
	EDU551 Perspectives on Teaching Mathematics (unles	
	EDU555 Digital Technology and Education underta	
	EDU579 Critical Evaluation of Professional Learning	EDU593 for
	EDU595 Research Methods in Education* 20cp	
	In addition to 20 cp from the electives listed above, students may	
	choose up to 1 elective (10 cp) from the Master of Education	
	(Leadership) course.	
CAPSTONE	EDU590 Capstone Review	
(COMPULSORY)	EDU593 Education Research Project (20 cp)	1 x 10
A capstone subject is to	EDU594 Reflexive Teaching through Action Research	(or 1 x 20)
be completed as a final		,
subject.		
SPECIALISATION	There are no specialisations	
RULES OF	4 core subjects, 3 electives and 1 10 cp capstone subject.	
PROGRESSION	Or 4 core subjects, 2 electives and 1 20 cp capstone subject.	
OTHER PROTOCOLS	10 credit points per subject with 1 point being 10 hours of study per week. Total	
OF THE COURSE	hours per subject is 130 hours.	
PRE-REQUISITES FOR	*EDU595 Research Methods in Education is a compulsory requisite to	
SPECIFIC SUBJECTS	EDU593 Education Research Project (20 credits) and is highly	
	recommended as for completion prior to EDU594 Reflexive Teaching	
	through Action Research	

About NICE Course Delivery

The Master of Education (Leadership) is delivered online using the Learning Management System (LMS), Moodle. Online study is supported by lecturer meetings (via zoom/teams). Although these synchronous sessions are not compulsory and will be recorded for those unable to attend live, participation is highly recommended.

NICE@School delivery arrangement may be approved for the first two core subjects EDU400a and EDU501a, allowing for additional support through intensives.

The National Institute for Christian Education (NICE) delivers this course of study on AC's behalf through a Higher Education Third Party Arrangement (HETPA). The National Institute for Christian Education (NICE) offers study over three semesters per year.

Semester 1: March to June Semester 2: July to November

Summer Intake: November to February

Students studying outside Australia are welcome and catered for in the course delivery.



Graduate Pathways

Students who have successfully completed this course may progress into one of AC's higher degree research courses. Graduates are advised to contact the AC Future Students Team for information on eligibility requirements for further study.

Career Opportunities

This course aims to produce graduates who are competent and reflective professional educators who are equipped to engage in life-long learning in their educational profession. The Master of Education has been developed primarily for educators within the Christian Education National schools in Australia, however, the course may be undertaken by educators in other school systems in Australia, as well as by students studying online overseas.

Work-Integrated Learning

Work-Integrated Learning may be undertaken through various Professional Practice and Professional Experience subjects at AC. These subjects seek to create a direct linkage between the learning, skills and values engaged in lectures, and the reflection which occurs when these are applied in real-life settings. These work-based training subjects comprise of instruction, academic assessment and a placement in a workplace for each subject. To qualify for the award of the Master of Education, a candidate is not required to complete any Professional Practice subjects.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Academic Entry Requirements

Applicants with Recent Secondary Education

This course of study requires the completion of a higher education qualification by an authorised institution. Applicants with recent high school education only are not eligible for direct entry into this course.

Applicants with Vocational Education and Training Study

This course of study requires the completion of a higher education qualification by an authorised institution. Applicants with a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification only are not eligible for direct entry into this course.

Applicants with Higher Education Study

Applicants whose highest level of study enrolment since leaving secondary education is a higher education qualification must demonstrate the completion of at least an AQF Level 7 Bachelors degree in education, or the equivalent degree and a Diploma or Certificate in Education, or completion of a Level 8 or above equivalent postgraduate qualification by an authorised institution.



Applicants with Work and Life Experience

This course of study requires the completion of a higher education qualification by an authorised institution. Applicants who have not completed formal higher education study are not eligible for direct entry into this course.

English Language Proficiency

Overseas students are required to demonstrate their English proficiency skills. Such students admitted into our programs must attain an overall IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 (with no score below 7.0 in any of the four skills areas). IELTS (or equivalent) is not required for applicants who have undertaken five years of required higher education study (or equivalent) in English from an approved country or who have completed a Certificate IV or higher qualification awarded in English under the Australian Qualification Framework by an authorised institution or registered training organisation.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the <u>International Student Office</u> if they are unsure of the equivalence of their English language proficiency test scores.

Special Admissions Pathways

AC's <u>Admissions Policy</u> details the special admission pathways for our courses of study. The Special Admission Pathways are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Program Director. A student's admission requirements may be reconsidered on educational disadvantage grounds, including but not limited to:

- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, where the normal HSC entry path has not been followed;
- socioeconomic reasons (such as low-family income or poor living conditions);
- learning or language difficulties;
- disrupted schooling;
- physical disability;
- serious family illness or excessive family responsibility;
- geographical isolation of home and/or school;
- completion of a prescribed program of non-award study (four subjects or 40 credit points) with an overall GPA of 1.8 or better.

For a full list of special admissions pathways, please see AC's <u>Admissions Policy</u>.

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

AC is committed to providing a learning environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of income, age, disability, social and ethnic background, location or gender. AC endeavours to increase opportunities for people of all backgrounds to participate in training programs, and implement programs that take into account the specific needs of participants. AC encourages students to inform AC of any disability, medical condition or learning need that may impact on your studies to arrange a study plan that best suits your needs.



HOW TO APPLY

Once you have chosen your course of study, you will need to apply direct to NICE. Applications typically close 3 weeks before semester commences. All NICE application forms are completed online.

Further information on How to Apply and access to the Application Forms is available on the NICE website.

Credit transfers and recognised prior learning (RPL)

You may be entitled to credit for prior learning, whether formal or informal. Formal learning can include previous study in higher education, vocational education, or adult and community education. Informal learning can include on the job learning or various kinds of work and life experience. Credit can reduce the amount of study needed to complete a degree.

For further information about credit and recognition of prior learning please see AC's <u>Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy</u> or contact our <u>Student Support</u> team.

HOW TO ENROL

Once you have returned a signed copy of your Letter of Offer to accept your place at NICE, you will be invited to enrol in your specific subjects in the next academic period. Students are advised to consult their timetable (please visit the NICE website), and contact the <u>Student Support Team</u> for tailored academic advice before completing the enrolment form.

Applications for credit transfers or recognised prior learning will be communicated to you once they have been processed.



STUDENT SERVICES

Student Support Team

AC's and NICE's Student Support Team exists to ensure you get from Orientation Day to Graduation Day with a smile on your face!

Academic Support

- Tailored academic guidance
- Assessment variation to accommodate disabilities, medical conditions and/or learning needs
- Exam reader/writers
- One-on-one tutoring and small group workshops for face-to-face and distances students
- · Physical libraries
- Access to online journal databases
- Access to eBook resources
- Resources are also provided online for self-development

Non-Academic Support

- Pastoral Care
- Chaplains
- Professional counselling
- Careers guidance
- On –campus childcare*
- Extra-curricular and community services
- SRC The Student Representative Council
- Recreation areas

Student Life

All students can take part in:

- mission trips and community service projects
- weekly chapel services
- lunches and gatherings on campus
- · opportunities to hear or present research
- masterclasses to take your skills and knowledge to the next level
- social events both on and away from campus
- exchange programs with other colleges and universities around the world

...and much, much more! To find out what is happening near you or to get specific details just contact the Student Support Team:

Email: AC Student Support: studentsupport@ac.edu.au NICE Student Support: admin@nice.edu.au

Phone: (02) 8893 9005 (AC)

https://www.ac.edu.au/student-services/

*Not available at all campuses



STUDENT PROFILE

The table below gives an indication of the likely peer cohort for new students at AC. It provides data on students that commenced study and passed the census date in the most relevant recent intake period for which data are available, including those admitted through all offer rounds and international students studying in Australia.

	Reporting Year: 2023	
Applicant background	Number of students	Percentage of all students
(A) Past higher education study	6	100%
(includes a bridging or enabling course)	0	100%
(B) Past vocational education and training (VET) study	N/A	N/A
(C) Work and life experience		
(Admitted on the basis of previous achievement other than	N/A	N/A
the above)		
(D) Recent secondary education:		
 Admitted solely on the basis of ATAR 	N/A	N/A
(regardless of whether this includes the impact of		IN/A
adjustment factors such as equity or subject bonus points)		
 Admitted where both ATAR and additional criteria were 		
considered	N/A	N/A
(e.g. portfolio, audition, extra test, early offer conditional	N/A	
on minimum ATAR)		
Admitted on the basis of other criteria only and ATAR was		
<u>not</u> a factor	NI / A	N1 / A
(e.g. special consideration, audition alone, schools	N/A	N/A
recommendation scheme with no minimum ATAR		
requirement)	<u> </u>	N/D
International students	<5	N/P
All students	6	100%

Note: "<5" – the number of students is less than 5.

N/A – Students not accepted in this category.

N/P – Not published: the number is hidden to prevent calculation of numbers in cells with less than 5 students.

ATAR-based offers only	ATAR	
Highest rank to receive an offer	N/A	
Median rank to receive an offer	N/A	
Lowest rank to receive an offer	N/A	

Note: "<5" – the number of students is less than 5.

Note: This table relates to all students made an offer on the basis of ATAR alone or ATAR in combination with other factors. Students admitted into a course of study based on a Special Admission Pathway or otherwise not based on their ATAR are not included in this table.



WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION

ac.edu.au

AC's <u>website</u> is the best place to discover what's happening at AC and explore our courses, campuses and support services. If you are not yet an AC student, our <u>Future Students</u> team are here to help find the right course for you!

nice.edu.au

As this course is delivered by NICE as part of a Higher Education Third Party Arrangement with AC, NICE's <u>website</u> is the best place to discover what's happening at NICE.

Moodle

Once you begin your studies at AC / NICE, you will use <u>Moodle</u> as your Learning Management System (LMS) to access all your subject content, the Academic Handbook, Study Skills and Textbook Information. New Students can also use Moodle to view our Induction Videos.

International Students

Nothing beats the experience of being part of our community and participating in our classroom discussions! Alternatively, for students who decide to study from their home country, AC brings education to you by offering many subjects and degrees by distance education allowing you to study from anywhere in the world. Flexible delivery means that you will have access to our e-Learning platform which provides resources, podcasts, online forums and tutor assistance that allows you to complete your studies from your home country.

Further information about International Students, including the application process, international recognition of AC courses of study and FAQ's, is available on our <u>website</u>.

Alternatively, our <u>Future Students</u> team are available to answer any questions you may have about your requirements as an onshore or offshore International Students at AC.

OILT

Thinking about higher education institutions and study areas? Wish you could ask someone about their experience? The <u>QILT website</u> helps you compare official study experience and employment outcomes data from Australian higher education institutions.

TEQSA National Register

The purpose of the <u>TEQSA National Register</u> is to be the authoritative source of information on the status of registered higher education providers in Australia.



Complaints and Grievances

If you are unsatisfied with the outcome of your application, AC's <u>Complaint and Grievance Resolution Policy</u> outlines the procedure for resolving a complaint or grievance.

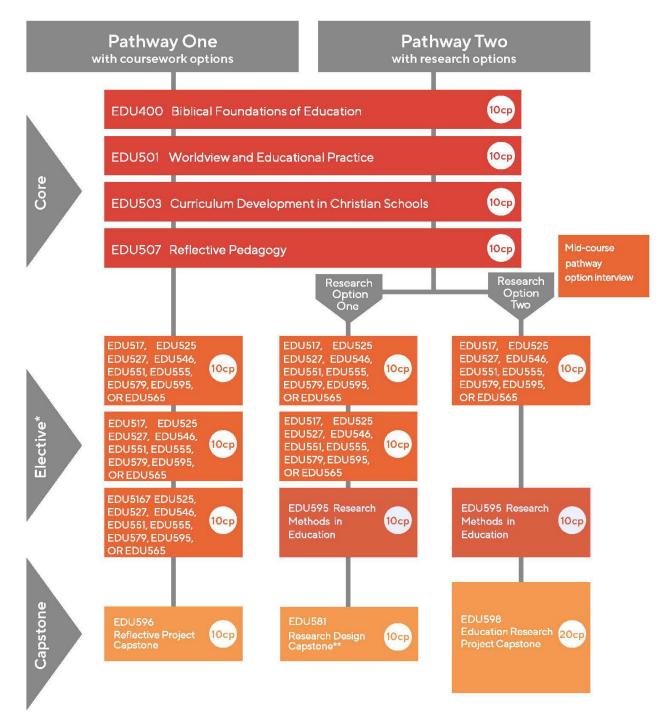


APPENDIX 1 - PROPOSED COURSE PROGRESSION

Master of Education

80 credit points





^{*}In addition to 20cp from the electives listed, students may choose up to 1 elective (10cp) from the Master of Education (Leadership) course.
**Will be offered from Semester 1 2024.